

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-11 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner considers the subject matter of claims 7-11 as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Although not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections, claims 7, 10 and 11 have been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of claim 1. Although claim 7 does not include the limitations of intervening claims 2 and 3, Applicants submit that the allowable features are included in claim 7. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 7-11 are now in condition for allowance.

Rejection Under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Kaitani et al. (U.S. Patent 6,259,226). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that Kaitani et al. shows a controller for an AC motor with exciting current detectors 4, an exciting current amplifier computation means 106 and

107 for computing an exciting current amplitude value and a voltage compression unit 3 for impressing voltages at values corresponding to the exciting current amplitude value.

Applicants disagree that Kaitani et al. anticipates the present invention. The present invention utilizes the exciting current detection values to produce an exciting current amplitude value. This value is then compared to a current amplitude command given from the outside to establish a current amplitude deviation value. This is applied to current controller 20 and multiplied by multipliers 22 and 24 by current commands in the form of sine and cosine wave signals from the current command generators 4 and 6. Applicants submit that these features are not shown by Kaitani et al.

Claim 1 has now been amended to only include the embodiments where the exciting current amplitude computation means computes the square of an exciting current amplitude value. Since Kaitani et al. does not include an arrangement where the square of the exciting current amplitude value is computed, Applicants submit that claim 1 is not anticipated by Kaitani et al. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is allowable over this reference.

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and as such are also considered to be allowable. In addition, each of these claims recite other features to make them additionally allowable.

In particular, in regard to claim 4 the second paragraph of the claim describes a means for computing current commands in the form of a sine or cosine signal on the basis of an angle command given from outside. Applicants submit that the Kaitani et al. reference does not show an angle command from outside. Furthermore, Applicants submit that the sine and cosine wave signals disclosed in Kaitani are not used to multiply the current amplitude deviation values as presented in the claims, but instead are only used in the coordinate converters. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 4 is additionally allowable.

Rejection Under 35 USC § 103

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Kaitani et al. in view of Kuwano et al. (U.S. Patent 6,747,433). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

First, it is noted that claim 5 depends from claim 1 and is allowable for the reasons recited above. Also, claim 5 depends from claim 4 and is allowable for the reasons presented in regard to this claim as well.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that the secondary reference Kuwano et al. cannot be used in a rejection under 35 USC 103(c). The present application is assigned to Japan Servo Company, Ltd., the same assignee as this reference. Also, three of the four inventors of the present application are the inventors of this reference. The present application has a U.S. filing date of October 1, 2003 and a priority date of October 3,

2002. The Kuwano et al. reference was issued on June 8, 2004 and has a U.S. filing date of September 25, 2002, some eight days before the priority date of the present application. Thus, this reference could only potentially be used under 35 USC 102(e) since the filing date of the present application precedes the issue date of this reference. However, such a 102(e) reference cannot be used in an obviousness rejection if both were commonly owned at the time the present invention was made, as described in 35 USC 103(c). Applicants submit that Kuwano et al. and the present invention were commonly owned at the time the present invention was made. Therefore, this rejection is also overcome.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patents relied on by the Examiner, either alone or in combination. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert F. Gnuse (Reg. No. 27,295) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Application No.: 10/674,388

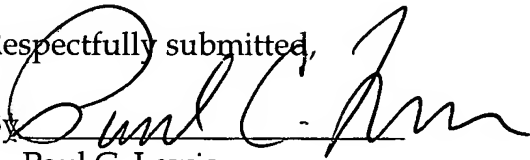
Docket No.: 0044-0270P

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: May 24, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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